

It should be no surprise for us about who the son being thrown a wedding feast is in the Gospel. The celebration of the marriage of Christ to the Church (and our own deep union with him) is one to which all the Baptized have been invited. But there are so many dis- tractions that can pull us away from just going. While I know that some of you are away due to health concerns related to the pandemic, so many other people can't seem to find time to come for an hour and celebrate that foretaste of the banquet that we have in the Eucharist. It is up to all of us to help to invite people. I bet the guests who turned down going to the banquet didn't know what they were missing - and it is the same for many who absent themselves from Mass. Such a great gift God has given us, such a privilege - it's worth an hour a week.

Our new principal has begun her transition week with Mrs. Tavaska. I stopped in on them on Monday as they were going through the many details that one principal needs to pass on to the next. I also have been pleased with how well the teachers are doing with all the new challenges of the COVID times, and how upbeat the children are. I received some feedback that I did not give enough information about the new principal's experience and qualifications in my last column, so here is a profile: Mrs. Mallozzi has two Masters Degrees (one in Curriculum and Instruction, another in Organizational Leadership), she is a licensed Elementary and Junior High principal by the state, and is active in her parish. She comes to us with a wide range of experience in education. She has been a principal in a Pre-Kindergarten/Kindergarten School, a 4-6 grade Instructional technology teacher, and has taught English/ Language arts at the 6-8 grade level. In addition, she has been an inclusion classroom teacher at St. Bernadette's in Northborough working with children with special needs. Most recently, she was principal at St. Stephen's School in Worcester. She received very positive reviews from the Catholic Schools office, gained endorsement from individuals at St. Stephens, and was personally known to Mrs. Tavaska who had experience working with her as a fellow school leader. The Lord seems to have sent us just the person we needed. It is not hard to see what the selection committee picked her.

Last Sunday we had a Mass on the lawn in front of the rectory. As we had advertised, there was a blessing of animals, and people could also attend from their cars with communion brought to them. The social distancing helped all the animals to get along with each other, and the weather was perfect. It was nice for some to bring their pet to Mass, and I saw a few people who have been absent due to health concern present there (either spaced out in the fresh air, or safely in their car watching and listening to the Mass on their radio). A very positive experience overall.

On Monday I did the first "Ask The Pastor" series on Facebook live. A number of people joined live, and many others have watched the "rerun" either on Facebook, or on the parish website. Check it out. Questions included Angels, Jesus as fulfillment of prophecy, and the ending of Mass. We will surely repeat this. Please feel free to submit additional questions and I'll work to get to all of them.

Our Jesus series and weekly Bible studies will be continuing and providing opportunities for you to engage your faith more fully. May you all have a great week.

God Bless, Fr. Steve